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11 JUN 1974

The Honorable Fred C. Ikle
Director, United States Arms Control
and Disarmament Agency
Washington, D. C. 20525

Dear Fred:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter of 20 May concerning
SALT planning.

The questions you pose are indeed good ones. As you say,
none of the subject areas has been ignored by the Intelligence
Community and no amount of analytical effort will guarantee
fully reliable answers.

It is precisely these types of questions, however, that
provide impetus for the Community's analytical research
programs, both short-term and long-term. We welcome your
letter and the questions you raise. They will serve as background
and guidance for current and future Community research, and I
will ensure that they are folded into our system of identifying
key intelligence questions for the Community's attention.

At the same time, all of the analytical components of the
Community are impacted by a growing number of priority requests
for strategic research. It is our responsibility to see that such
requests are met with high-quality responses on the basis of
their priorities. Thus, in view of the current workloads to
satisfy priority requirements from the highest level of Government,
I cannot commit specific resources to research on the questions
you raise. Nevertheless, I am in favor of inter-agency discussions
and seminars to mull over topics such as you raise and will encourage
CIA participation in these discussions as time permits.

Sincerely,

/s/ W. E. Colby

W. E. Colby
Director

Letter to Director, ACDA
Subject: Soviet Strategic Doctrine and Policy

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